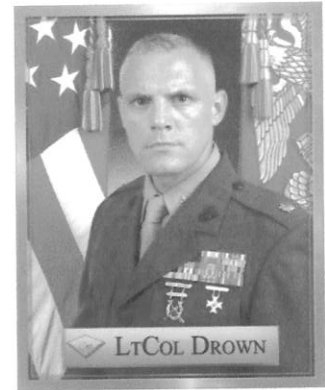


**Commanding Officer**  
**Marine Tactical Command Squadron 18**  
**Statement Substance Abuse Prevention**



The Marine Corps and Navy Policies clearly state that the possession, use, or distribution of illegal drugs will not be tolerated. In addition to illegal drugs, alcohol abuse is not acceptable. I fully support these policies and will enforce them.

Prior to recruit training, all enlisted Marines agree to abstain from illegal drug use in their "Statement of Understanding Regarding USMC Policy on illegal Drug Use" contractual agreement. I am personally committed to enforcing this legally binding document to its full extent; there will be no exceptions. The urinalysis program is one of several effective tools available to identify drug users and to deter drug use within our squadron. I will utilize this random screening tool to assist in identifying those personnel who choose to engage in illegal drug use. Despite what is often rumored, most drugs stay in the body for over 30 days and will be picked up in a urinalysis. The urinalysis currently in use by the military can now detect spice. In addition to the urinalysis program, the barracks and parking lots are subject to search and sweeping by drug-sniffing law enforcement canines, which are now being trained to detect spice.

Under no circumstances will any disciplinary or administrative action be taken on a Marine or Sailor identified as a possible drug user without appropriate investigation and confirmation. As your Commanding Officer, I am authorized to discipline military personnel who have used, distributed, or possess illegal drugs. All personnel who have been found guilty of one or all of the aforementioned disciplinary infractions will be recommended for administrative separation for misconduct under "other than honorable" conditions.

The Marine Corps policy on alcohol abuse states that "alcohol abuse is not tolerated" and the Marines or Sailors who abuse alcohol will be held fully accountable for their actions. Accidental injuries, motor vehicle accidents, and general misconduct resulting from alcohol abuse impact the good order and discipline of our unit, and in many cases, are punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Every member of this command is responsible for his or her own actions whether under the influence of alcohol or not. Many preventative tools are available in treating alcohol abuse and dependency. These programs include: screening, counseling, physiological and psychological treatment and rehabilitation (both out and inpatient). Do not wait for an alcohol related incident to "command direct" you for screening. If you need help with an alcohol problem, "self-refer." The squadron Substance Abuse Control Office can be reached at 636-3324. Be smart and do the right thing before it becomes a problem.

The Marine Corps, and more specifically MTACS-18, has no place for involvement of any kind with illegal drugs or alcohol abuse. Please do not discredit your country, the Marine Corps, or MTACS-18 by violating this policy. Adhering to this policy is what our Nation, our leadership, and I expect.

Semper Fidelis,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "E. R. DROWN".

E. R. DROWN

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Marine Corps  
Commanding Officer  
Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 18